

ODD FELLOWS HALL
Still Pond, Maryland
(1918)

The old Odd Fellows Hall is a two-story, hipped roof, frame building which was constructed in 1918 for a cost of \$1,500.00. It housed the Betterton Lodge #164 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Friendship Rebecca Lodge #57 and served as an important center of the Still Pond community for many years. The organization disbanded in 1975 and the Hall, one of the last lodge buildings in the county, is vacant.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC ODD FELLOWS HALL

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

South side Rt.292, 2 buildings east of
corner

1st

CITY, TOWN

Still Pond

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Kent

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

☒BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

___OCCUPIED

☒UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___COMMERCIAL

___EDUCATIONAL

___ENTERTAINMENT

___GOVERNMENT

___INDUSTRIAL

___MILITARY

___MUSEUM

___PARK

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___RELIGIOUS

___SCIENTIFIC

___TRANSPORTATION

☒OTHER: vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME I.O.O.F. Hall c/o Ellwood Wheat

Telephone #: 301-778-2146

STREET & NUMBER

Still Pond Creek

CITY, TOWN

Still Pond

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Court House

Liber #: APR 3

Folio #: 359

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Odd Fellows Hall is a two-story frame structure which is set back about 30 feet from the street. There is no significant landscaping although there is foundation planting at the front of the lot and large trees at the rear.

The Hall is three bays wide and four bays long; the main entry is in the center of the end of the short side of the building which faces the street. Above the main entry is a hip-roofed hood which projects about 5' and is supported with large bracketts decorated with 2 turned wooden spindles set diagonally in the triangle formed by the bracketts, the wall and the hood roof. This hood shelters double entry doors with glass lights.

The roof of the main building is a shallow hip covered with metal roofing and finished with a simple box cornice with cyma recta crown mold. The lapped weatherboards covering the exterior are 5" wide and there are narrower cornerboards. Faded paint, shows that the structure was most recently painted yellow with blue trim.

Two over two sash windows are regularly spaced in each bays. They have plain, flat trim and plain rectangular sills, but an additional ogee molding nailed to the lintel gives the appearance of an architrave. Shutter pintels screwed to the frame remain but the shutters themselves are gone.

The first floor interior is one space which is divided by a central row of cast iron columns which support the second floor structure. The right angle stair to the second floor runs against the front facade and has turned oak balusters.

Since the Betterton Lodge disbanded the building has been used for storage.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-430

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1918-20

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

see below

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is significant because it is one of the few lodge buildings which remain in the rural towns of Kent County.

Betterton Lodge #164 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was first organized in the town of Betterton in the early 20th century. It was unsuccessful there and moved, about 1915, to Still Pond. It first met in a garage behind the present P & G Store. In 1918, a group of men who were members of the Betterton lodge established a share-holding corporation called the Still Pond Hall Company of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and purchased a lot for \$165.54. The building was constructed soon after for a cost of \$1,500.00 by a local builder named Mr. Pennington.

The Lodge served as an important center of the community for many years. Its membership grew and included an organization for women, Friendship Rebecca Lodge #57.

During the 1960's interest in fraternal organizations diminished and the Betterton Lodge--the last of three in Kent County--disbanded in 1975.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kent County Land Records, Kent County Court House, Chestertown, Maryland

Interview with Mr. Ellwood Wheat, April 1980

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Planning Commission

DATE

778-4600, ext.67

STREET & NUMBER

Court House

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

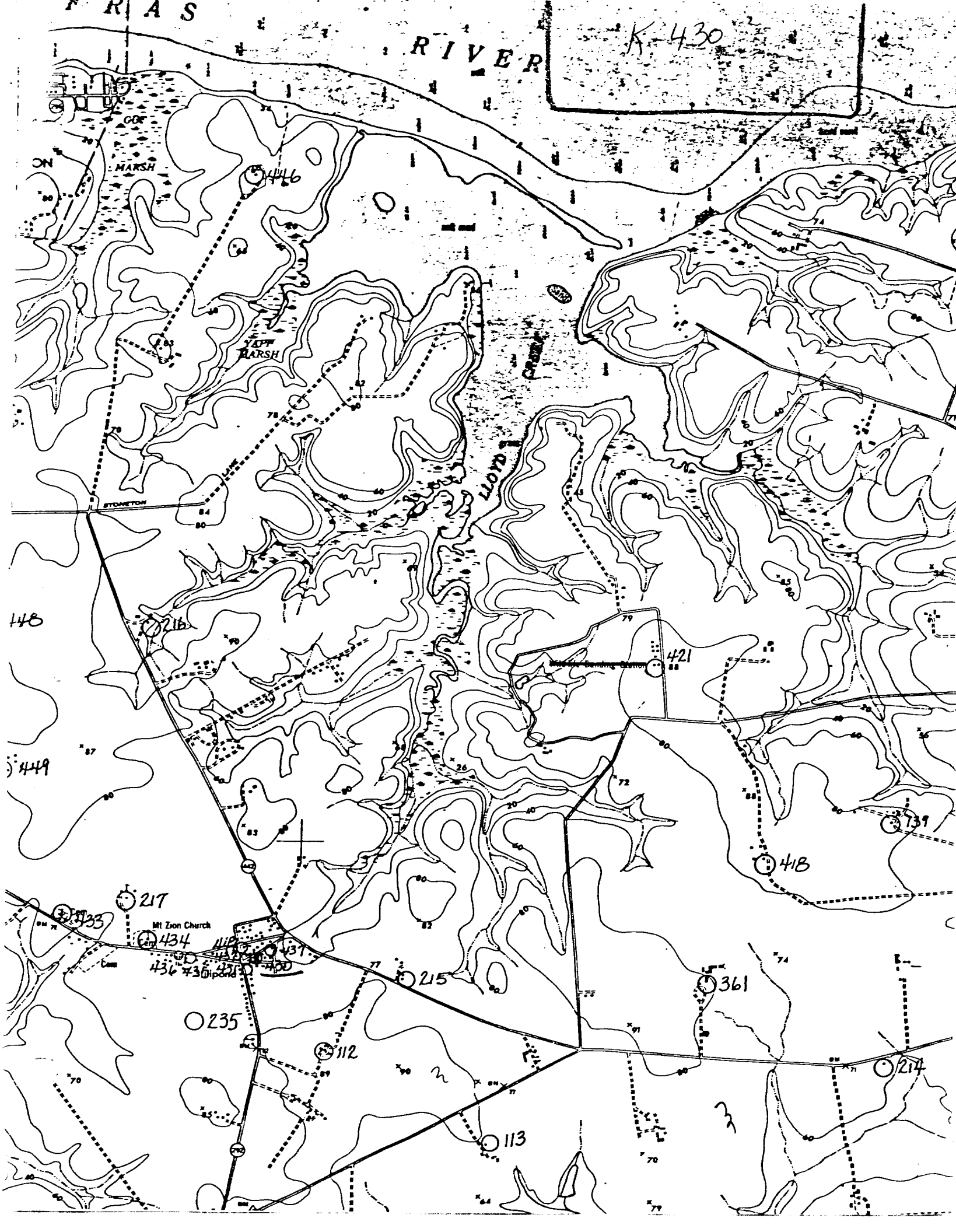
Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438





K-430

Old Fellows Hall

View to southeast

Still Pond

Kent County

M.L. Fritz

6/1980

J. Tyler Campbell
FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

MAY 21 1980